**The ACME Ten Tons 1000km Permanent**

**Route Notes:**

Based on ‘The ACME Grand’ 1000km BRM, 11:00 Thursday start from Witham. Control opening and closing times for that event available on request. This is an **x-rated event** for experienced randonneurs, with the need to be self-sufficient, especially on the night sections, where opportunities for food and shelter are limited.

Riders may start anywhere on the route, with additional start/finish controls if necessary, and even ride in reverse. **Riders are strongly advised to carry an alternative navigation system to GPS devices in case of problems: either all 16 pages of the route sheet, or paper maps. Also some sort of emergency shelter/bivi, or at least a space blanket, in case a roadside nap is needed to combat *The* *Dozies*.**

The route is **advisory** – there are several ‘over-distance’ sections that avoid potentially busy main roads. However, using such roads, which may involve less climbing too, could be ok at quiet times, depending on your schedule. This is especially true on stage #5 Tewkesbury-Chepstow, #7 Newport-Pontypridd and #12 Neath-Barry. On the ‘Grand’, several riders found alternatives, including diverting to Port Talbot Travelodge, rather than using Barry/Cardiff for a sleep stop.

Some of the cyclepaths, especially through Newport and Cardiff, are quite good, though watch out for problems like broken glass! Again, taking to the roads may be a viable alternative at quiet times.

Some of the A & B roads, especially the A4226 into/from Barry on stages #8,9 & 12 are not suitable for large groups, being alternately wide and fast, then narrow and quite laney. Please ride on such roads with consideration for other road users.

**The usual warnings apply about potholes and other road imperfections, also random wildlife**, especially in the Forest of Dean. On my DIY Recce I saw, at close quarters, a wild boar, deer: muntjac and roe [including a white doe], badgers and a fox…

It would help me greatly if you could number your receipts, highlighting date, time and place and write them in the relevant boxes on the brevet card.

**Please double check all receipts are present and correct!**

**Have a great ride!**

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